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Docket No.: 427008037US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Victor Higgs

Application No.: 10/549,865

Confirmation No.: 4772

Filed: September 22, 2005

Art Unit: N/A

For: DETECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS  
METAL PARTICULATES ON  
SEMICONDUCTORS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AOTI Operating Company, Inc., assignee of the entire right title and interest in the above-identified application by assignment dated March 3, 2006, a copy of which is submitted herewith, hereby appoints the following attorneys and/or agents of the firm of Perkins Coie LLP:

All practitioners at Customer Number 25096.

as its attorneys with full power of substitution to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith.

The assignee certifies that it has reviewed the assignment and to the best of the assignee's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee.

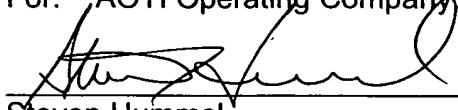
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Please direct all correspondence regarding this application to the following:

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For: AOTI Operating Company, Inc.

  
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Steven Hummel  
Vice President and Chief Technology Officer

Dated: Aug 10, 2006

## **ASSIGNMENT BY INVENTOR**

This Assignment is by Victor Higgs (the "Assignor"), residing at 222 Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 7DF, UNITED KINGDOM. The Assignor has invented one or more certain inventions (the "Invention(s)") described in a Patent application for Letters Patent of the United States entitled DETECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS METAL PARTICULATES ON SEMICONDUCTORS (the "Application"), already filed on September 22, 2005 as U.S. Application No. 10/549,865.

AOTI Operating Company, Inc., a corporation of the state of Delaware having its principal place of business at 131 NW Hawthorne, Suite 207, Bend, Oregon 97701 ("Assignee"), desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the Invention(s) and the Application, and in and to any patents (collectively, "Patents") that may be granted for the Invention(s) in the United States or in any foreign countries.

For valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which Assignor acknowledges, Assignor hereby sells, assigns, and transfers to Assignee, its successors, legal representatives and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in and to: the Invention(s), the Application, and any Patents; any divisions, continuations, and continuations-in-part of the Application and any other application claiming priority rights from the Application; any reissues, reexaminations, or extensions of any and all Patents; the right to file foreign applications directly in the name of Assignee; and the right to claim priority rights deriving from the Application (collectively, the "Rights"). Assignor warrants that Assignor owns the Rights, and that the Rights are unencumbered. Assignor also agrees to not sign any writing or do any act conflicting with this assignment, and, without further compensation, sign all documents and do such additional acts as Assignee deems necessary or desirable to: perfect Assignee's enjoyment of the Rights; conduct proceedings regarding the Rights, including any litigation or interference proceedings; or perfect or defend title to the Rights. Assignor requests the Commissioner of Patents to issue any Patent of the United States that may be issued on the Invention(s) to Assignee. This Assignment may be executed in counterparts.

Date: 3/3/06

Victor Higgs  
Victor Higgs

WITNESS:

Date: 03/03/06

BEATRIZ CAMPOS

Name:

Beatriz Campos